

Message Text

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ACTION PM-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 SS-20 IGA-02 TRSE-00 OMB-01

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 MC-02 NEA-10 AID-20

EB-11 SPC-03 DRC-01 /105 W

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R 182245Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6523

INFO DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE WASHDC

USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS CZ

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAN JOSE 1063

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, PINS

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE FMS PURCHASE

1. THE RECENTLY NAMED GOCR MINISTER OF PUBLIC SECURITY IN PRESIDENT-ELECT ODUBER'S ADMINISTRATION HAS INDICATED TO EMBASSY OFFICIALS HIS DESIRE TO PURCHASE APPROXIMATELY THREE COASTAL PATROL LAUNCHES AND TWO HELICOPTERS OR TWO LIGHT AIRCRAFT. EQUIPMENT IS INTENDED FOR PATROLLING EXTENSIVE SEACOASTS IN AN ATTEMPT TO CONTROL SMUGGLING PROBLEMS OF CONTRABAND AND NARCOTICS. MINISTER EXPRESSED INTEREST IN TRYING TO HAVE VEHICLES AVAILABLE PRIOR TO OR SHORTLY AFTER INAUGURATION ON 8 MAY 1974.

2. DESIRED LAUNCHES WOULD BE 40-60 FOOT, 15 KNOTS, NO REQUIREMENT FOR ARMAMENT MOUNTS HEAVIER THAN .30 CALIBER MACHINE GUN. PREFERABLE HELICOPTERS WOULD BE FAIRCHILD HILLER 1100, SINGLE ENGINE, 4 PASSENGER. OTHER LIGHT OBSERVATION HELICOPTERS WOULD BE SUITABLE ALTERNATIVE. AIRCRAFT PREFERENCE IS CESSNA 185.

3. WHILE THE MINISTER IS WELL AWARE OF THE DEMISE OF MAP FOR COSTA RICA HE IS INTERESTED IN EXPLORING AN FMS CASH PURCHASE (PROBABLY SIMILAR TO THE P-51 SALE
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IN 1955) WHICH WOULD HAVE ONLY A SYMBOLIC PRICE TAG.

HE ALSO EXPRESSED INTEREST IN THE POSSIBILITY OF OBTAINING THE EQUIPMENT THROUGH A THIRD COUNTRY "BRIDGE", SPECIFICALLY ISRAEL AS THE EXAMPLE. BY THIS HE APPARENTLY MEANT TO OBTAIN EQUIPMENT ONCE PROVIDED TO A THIRD COUNTRY THROUGH GRANT AID BUT NOW EXCESS TO OPERATIONAL NEEDS AND STILL IN GOOD CONDITION.

4. WOULD APPRECIATE INFORMATION ON AVAILABILITY OF EXCESS DEFENSE EQUIPMENT OR MATERIAL THROUGH OTHER CHANNELS AS BASIS FOR OUR RESPONSE. EMBASSY WOULD LIKE TO BE AS RESPONSIVE AS POSSIBLE TO THIS QUERY.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY EQUIPMENT, SHIPS, SMUGGLING, NARCOTICS, MILITARY SALES, HELICOPTERS, PRESIDENT ELECT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 MAR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974SANJO001063
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: SAN JOSE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740335/aaaabgtz.tel
Line Count: 73
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION PM
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11 SEP 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <11 SEP 2002 by WorrelSW>; APPROVED <03 JAN 2003 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: POSSIBLE FMS PURCHASE
TAGS: MASS, PINS, (ODUBER QUIROS, DANIEL)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005